

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 28, 2008

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women was held on Thursday, February 28, 2008 in the Department Head Room, 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

President Lesser called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

The following Commissioners were present for roll call:

President Lesser
Vice President Duba
Treasurer Creary
Commissioner Freeman
Commissioner Jernigan
Commissioner Tanberg
Commissioner ZeBrack

Introduction of the audience followed.

(Commissioner Becerra-Jones arrived at 10:05 a.m.)

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 10, 2007

On motion of Commissioner Jernigan, seconded by Vice President Duba, with Commissioners Jernigan and Freeman abstaining, the minutes of December 10, 2008 were approved, with the following additions/corrections:

Page 3 under Community Outreach, *she had the pleasure of speaking and watching Dr. Dorothy Hite Height who is very active at 85 95 years young. Dr. Hite Height is a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor from President George W. Bush.*

Page 4, under Public Comment add, *She also commented that the Jenesse Center helped her tremendously.*

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Lesser distributed copies of the Committee bylaws to Commissioners for their review and reference.

(Commissioner Pinedo arrived at 10:10 a.m.)

She also reminded Commissioners that the Cultural Diversity/Sexual Harassment training is mandatory and training dates are available for those who have not yet attended.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Creary reported on the expendable allowance for the month of January 2008. The beginning balance as of January was \$19,739.16; budgeted expenditures were \$0; ending balance is \$19,739.16. The February Flex Spending Allocation is \$15,283.12. Treasurer Creary thanked the staff for their assistance with the Treasurer's Report and the monthly Trust Fund Ledger.

STAFF REPORT

Staff reported the following:

- Distributed information for the memorial of past Commissioner Myra Riddell. Memorial will be held on April 20, 2008 at the Village at Ed Gould Plaza in Los Angeles.
- Announced that per County Counsel's request, staff report items must be listed on the agenda.
- Announced that Commissioner Pinedo's reappointment to the Commission has been extended to August 29, 2008.
- The Commission will continue to meet the fourth Thursday of the month and the Commission agreed to hold their meeting in the Department Head room, 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration.
- Re-distributed the County Mileage and Food Policy
- Informed the Commission that due to limited budgets, the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors will no longer be able to pay the Internal Services Department (I.S.D) expenses incurred for any future L.A. County Run for Health 5K Run/Walks.

SISTERS STAYING HEALTHY UPDATE

Dr. Gerda Govine reported that the Sisters Staying Healthy conference was a success and she also thanked the Commission for supporting the event. Dr. Govine distributed programs from the event, which included information listing the Commission for Women as a supporter. Treasurer Creary requested additional copies of the Caregiver guide and thanked Dr. Govine for coming back to share the information from the conference. Commissioner Freeman commented and thanked Dr. Govine for addressing the issue of low birth weight black babies. Dr. Govine stated that Life Long partners with the Pasadena Birthing Project and are working on expanding the project.

(Commissioner Rodriguez arrived at 10:25 a.m.)

APPROVAL OF THE CHANGE TO THE TRUST FUND CRITERIA

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Treasurer and unanimously carried, the Commission voted to accept the changes to the Trust Fund Criteria.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO PURCHASE A "WOMEN OF SERVICE" TABLE AT THE 23RD ANNUAL "WOMEN OF THE YEAR" AWARDS LUNCHEON ON MARCH 10, 2008 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$850.00

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Treasurer Creary, with Commissioner Pinedo abstaining, and duly carried, the Commission approved to purchase half a table for the "Women of Service" at the 23rd Annual "Women of the Year" Awards Luncheon on March 10, 2008 in the amount not to exceed \$425.00.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO PURCHASE UP TO 2 FULL DAY CONFERENCE REGISTRATIONS FOR TWO COMMISSIONERS (NOT TO EXCEED \$300.00) TO ATTEND THE ASSOCIATION OF BATTER'S INTERVENTION PROGRAMS "THE IMPACT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON CHILDREN" CONFERENCE ON MARCH 13, 14, & 15, 2008 AT THE HOTEL QUEEN MARY, LONG BEACH

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner ZeBrack, seconded by Commissioner Tanberg and unanimously carried, the Commission approved to purchase two registrations for one day of the conference in an amount not to exceed \$300.00. Commissioners Rodriguez and Commissioner ZeBrack are interested in attending. Commissioner Becerra-Jones suggested that the Commissioners attending the conference report back to the Commission on the information gathered at the conference.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO DONATE UP TO \$3,000 TO THE WOMEN IN PAIN CONFERENCE ON MAY 30, 2008. (AMOUNT TO BE REVIEWED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

On motion of Treasurer Creary, seconded by Commissioner Tanberg and unanimously carried, the Commission voted to table this item.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO ENDORSE/ PARTICIPATE IN THE SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE EXHIBIT TO BE ON DISPLAY IN THE HALL OF ADMINISTRATION STARTING MARCH 3, 2008

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Freeman, seconded by Vice-President Duba, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved to endorse/participate in the Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke exhibit to be on display in the Hall of Administration starting March 3, 2008.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL TO SEND A RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE FOR WOMEN EDUCATORS OF LOS ANGELES 35TH ANNIVERSARY

Following discussion, on motion of Yolanda Becerra-Jones, seconded by Vice President Duba, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved to send a Certificate of Recognition for Women Educators of Los Angeles 35th Anniversary.

ENDORSE DENIM DAY IN L.A., PRESENTED BY PEACE OVER VIOLENCE (FORMERLY LACAAW) ON APRIL 23, 2008

Following discussion, on motion of Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Commissioner Jernigan, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved to endorse Denim Day in L.A., presented by Peace Over Violence on April 23, 2008.

REPORT FROM ACCW MEETING HELD IN FEBRUARY 2008

This item was tabled until the next Commission meeting.

2008 AWARDS LUNCHEON AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Tanberg announced that the luncheon journal has been sent to the printer and the final letter to the awardees will also go out today. The silent auction will be from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Auction items include, a painting by Nonie Higgins, Rowley and Bradford portrait and sitting, and a signed copy of Victoria Rowell's autobiography. Vice President Duba will also be donating a painting by a Chinese artist. The flowers and scrolls have been ordered and entertainment will be two selections performed by Sweet Harmony. There will be a Media table set up in the Tiffany Room with the Commission's "A Model For Others" DVD playing on a continuous loop. This years Gold Sponsor is ABC7 and the Silver Sponsors are LA Care Healthplan and Queenscare.

President Lesser welcomed and introduced Kellie Hawkins, Interim Executive Director of the Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women (LACCSW). Ms. Hawkins provided a brief background on her employment history and the goals of the LACCSW.

AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS-WORKGROUP BREAKOUT

President Lesser announced that the Commission would breakout for 5 minutes into the following workgroups: Nomination Committee, Finance Committee, and Issues Committee. Treasurer Creary suggested that when a request for financial donation is received by the Commission, a Finance Committee meeting will need to be scheduled within 14 days.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Older Women's: Pat Wilson reported she recommended to the City of Los Angeles Caregiving Committee that the Widows Guide be included in the City's booklet as a resource.

Health: Commissioner Tanberg reported that the next committee meeting will be a teleconference on Wednesday, March 19, 2008 at Noon. Pat Wilson suggested that the Health Committee look into HIV and Senior Citizens as a future issue to research.

Domestic Violence: Commissioner Rodriguez reported that as a result of research done by the Commission and the Domestic Violence Council and partnerships with the District Attorney's office and Supervisor Burke, a new program will be available for women who have been incarcerated for prostitution and other misdemeanors assisting them with job training and transitioning into housing. Prototypes was awarded a million dollar grant to pilot the program in the Compton Courthouse. The program will start referring women in the next couple of months.

Gender Equity: No report.

Education Committee: Commissioner Becerra-Jones reported that the committee met last week to work on refining the scholarship application. Staff reported that there have been some delays in processing the payments for the scholarship recipients due to incomplete and duplicate names in the County Ecaps System. She also commented that the Commissions involvement with the scholarships has made a positive impact on the recipient's lives and that the Commission should continue to partner with organizations that serve young girls County-wide. Commissioner Jernigan voiced her concerns with the state budget and the billion dollar cuts to schools. She also encouraged the Commissioners to individually contact their represents to voice their concerns.

Media/Public Relations: Commissioner Freeman reported that the Media Committee did have a joint meeting with the 5K Committee and suggested that the Media Committee have a joint meeting with the Awards Luncheon Committee.

Finance Committee: Treasurer Creary reported that all funding requests materials must be in received 4 days prior to the Commission meeting. She also reminded staff that the Committee Reports order be rotated.

Special Events: Vice President Duba reported that the 5K Committee has officially started working on the 10th Annual 5K Run/Walk and 10K Run. This year budgeting must be done and more money needs to be raised. The next meeting will be on April 7, 2008 and on the 1st Monday of each month from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. The Committee will also meet every 4th Sunday with representatives from the Los Angeles Marathon and City of Angels Half Marathon. Notification of the first meeting is forthcoming.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Geneviève Clavreul commented on her concerns with the number of adverse side affects from the HPV vaccine. She also commented on the reopening of King Drew and stated that the item has not been on the Board of Supervisors agenda. She feels that health care in Los Angeles County is in jeopardy.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Treasurer Creary attended the following events:

- Weighting 2 Exhale Health Symposium at the Wilshire United Methodist Church, 4350 Wilshire Blvd. on January 26, 2008.
- Supervisor Burke Tribute sponsored by Los Angeles City Council at City Hall Bridge on February 8, 2008.
- The Buckley School's 75th Anniversary Fundraiser at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion on February 9, 2008.

Vice President Duba announced that Supervisor Burke will be the honorary chair of the upcoming 5k. Commissioner Jernigan announced that Assemblywoman Karen Bass was elected as the Assembly Speaker, the first African American Women in the history of California, to do so. She also suggested sending a letter of congratulations to her. Commissioner Becerra Jones distributed a flyer from the Good Shepherd Center announcing the opening of a new kitchen and invited Commissioners to stop by. Commissioner Freeman suggested that a letter of recognition be sent to the Antelope Valley Boys and Girls Club for their SMART Girls prevention program.

MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA (to be presented and placed on a future agenda):

Treasurer Creary would like to discuss the meeting day of the week on the next agenda. Commissioner Becerra-Jones suggested that a report from those Commissioners attending the Domestic Violence conference be placed on the next agenda.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSIONERS

Charlotte Lesser, President
Reiko Duba, Vice President
Ruth Creary, Ph.D., Treasurer
Yolanda Becerra-Jones
Ruth Jernigan
Olivia Rodríguez
Bobbie Jean Tanberg
Elise ZeBrack
Peggy Freeman
Michelle Pinedo

EXCUSED

Karin Davalos
Wadie Gravely
Janet Mummey, Esq.

UNEXCUSED

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Rhonda Rangel, Twila Kerr, Nyla Jefferson, Executive Office
Elaine Rodriguez, OAAC

GUESTS

Geneviève Clavreul
Gerda Govine
Kellie Hawkins
Pat Wilson